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Georgia State University College of Law

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The Docket

A Publication of the Georgia State College of Law Student Bar Association

January-ish

Volume 5, Number 1

Interview: Professor E.R. Lanier

By Joe Farrell

JF: What do your initials "E. R." stand for?

ERL: Sorry, that's classified information: if I told you, I would have to kill you. Actually, the initials represent old Welsh curses; my parents, you see, had a certain Cymric sense of humor. You, however, may address me as "Your Excellency."

JF: Well, OK, Your Excellency...

ERL: That's enough...

JF: ... what do you teach?

ERL: Procedure, and that in all --well, at least most-- of its shapes, fashions, and forms. Whether the broad, middle America package that we deliver in the first year Civ Pro courses or the arcane world of international commercial arbitration or international litigation, it's all procedure and I love it all. I am probably most notorious for Georgia Practice & Procedure. I hesitate to say it is my favorite course because that would be like choosing the favorite among your children. Hardly fair. I venture into substantive courses from time to time --such as Public International Law and Comparative law-- but I see these as supporting my teaching and writing in procedural fields.

JF: How did this come about?

ERL: Hard to say except that it's almost always been that way. My first paying legal job was as an apprentice serf with the old firm of Gambrell, Russell here in Atlanta back in 1967, and my very first assignment in that shop was to write an annotation on the "new" Civil Practice Act which had been adopted by the Legislature the year before. Three decades later and I am still working on it. I think of it as Smythe's Curse.

JF: You worked with Smythe Gambrell?

ERL: Well, I worked for Smythe Gambrell. It was, as Mr. Clinton puts it, a defining moment in my life. Six day work weeks, very often half-days on Sundays. Really. We had firm meetings every Saturday morning beginning at 7:00 A.M. sharp: youngest associate had to get the coffee for everybody else, so it was like an Emancipation Proclamation when they hired somebody junior to you. Smythe was a great lawyer, perhaps the greatest we have ever had in Georgia: all the formal credentials --President of the Atlanta Bar, the Georgia Bar (I think), and the American Bar Association back in the early 1950s-- but without all that, he was still a phenomenal lawyer and a great human being.

JF: How come?

ERL: Indefinable. Smythe moved in a world of law: he read law, wrote law, thought law, spoke law; his friends --and his enemies-- were all lawyers; he was, well, a lawyer. He taught me --he showed me -- what was appropriate, what wasn't; what was lawyerlike, what wasn't. I can still remember Smythe at the end of firm suppers and such, looking about the table from under those bushy eyebrows of his and asking in that harvardized South Carolina

accent, "Well, does anyone need another drink?" No one, of course, ever did. I worshiped the old man; I still do. I want to be like him when I grow up. He was sort of an Atticus Finch of the Rich and Famous who also, incidentally, founded the Atlanta Legal Aid Society. Indefinable.

JF: Is he the person who had the greatest impact on your life?

ERL: Probably not. That would have come for me --as for all of us I think-- much earlier when we are still young and malleable. Leaving aside family and theological considerations, that credit, if such it is, would in my case go to a friend of some four decades duration, a physician --now sort of retired and living on Pamlico Sound up in Eastern North Carolina. Dick Borden was a volunteer medical counselor at a Boy Scout camp where I worked summers in the mid-1950s. We met and were instant friends: I mean, it's kind of hard to be reserved or distant with someone who is

checking you out for hernias and hemorrhoids and such.

JF: Undoubtedly. Why was he important to you?

ERL: Dick defies categorization. He is a physician and from a fairly well-off family up in that part of the South, but he moves comfortably and with a sense of dignity and of place wherever he is and with whomever he happens to be. It was Dick who suggested to this young, white middle class Southerner back in the 1950's that racism is an obscene and hideous injustice; it was also Dick who clued me in to the fact that the bravest human who ever walked was the first who ate a raw oyster. Dick was the only MD I was aware of in the '60s in our part of North Carolina who supported Medicare. Dick taught me how to gut a fresh-caught Blue Fish, but he also taught me the words --in German-- to the Fourth Movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. He taught me the worth and value of a human being. I owe him much, more than I can ever repay. More than I can ever say. Want me to sing the Fourth Movement?

JF: No.

ERL: Oh, come on. Just a little...

JF: Pass. Where did you get your education?

ERL: You assume that I got one. Actually, I did. My JD is from Emory; I have a Master's in Urban Studies from GSU, and my AB, in American History, came from Chapel Hill. Now there's an example of Dick Borden's impact on my life: I had been in a monastery for some time in the early 1960s --really-- up in the Finger Lakes region of Western New York, when I was overcome with a sudden urge to, uh, well... leave. This was very late in the spring of that year, like May or June, and I had no academic home where I could hang my hat that coming fall, two months or so off. I left the House, jumped on a train to New York City, and by 4:00 A.M. the next morning Dick was at the train station in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, picking me up in the pitch black darkness.

FROM THE DEAN

Each day is an exciting challenge for me as your new dean learning more about how to find resources for our College of Law to enrich your education. Because the use of computers is widespread in the practice of law, I have placed emphasis on the role of technology in our College of Law. Upon arrival, I discovered that the College lacked the right kind of computers for Westlaw and Lexis training. We submitted a request for funding to acquire these computers out of the University's first contingency monies made available this year and were successful in our quest. The sixth floor computer training room is now operational thanks to this funding.

Each fall the College of Law applies to the University for "Quality Improvement Funds" (QIFs). Last year QIF funding enabled the College to equip Room 330 with a Sony multiscan projector, a computer, and a network card for computer connection to the campus network and the Internet. With recently awarded QIF funding this year we can look forward to buying a laptop computer and a liquid crystal display (LCD) panel projection system for law library instruction that will be portable for use in the classrooms as well. Law librarians can provide training with this equipment in the use of CD-ROM products, Westlaw, Lexis, the Internet, and law specific on line services. We have received approval also to purchase multi-media instructional equipment for the courtroom and video and multi-media instructional equipment for classrooms.

The University provided funding this year for the Consortium on Negotiation and Conflict Resolution, housed on the sixth floor, as well as the first permanent funding for the Tax Clinic. Proposals have been submitted to increase the funding for the Consortium next year. We hope to work with the College of Business Administration to expand the research, teaching, and service mission of the Consortium. Private fund raising to establish an endowment for the Tax Clinic is also underway. So far, we have received pledges of about \$20,000.

The visit of Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, in October, 1996, proved to be one of the most exciting College of Law events last semester. Justice Kennedy called me after he returned to Washington, D.C. to express how much he had enjoyed his question and answer visit with you. He praised both our faculty and students. He used the adjectives "vibrant, dynamic, and outstanding" to describe his impression of Georgia State University's College of Law. I felt great pride to be your dean. The next Henry J. Miller Distinguished Lecture will take place on February 27, 1997 and will bring a number of distinguished law professors on campus to explore the "New Frontiers of Federalism." Please reserve this date on your calendar.

I have enjoyed meeting with students at open forums, receptions, and in small groups. On February 4, 1997, Dean Stephens and I will have a Deans' Forum at 2:30 p.m. in Room 170. Please come to give us your insights and suggestions. I look forward to this event.

Janice C. Griffith

See "Lanier," on page 4

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE STEPHEN BREYER

When appointed to the United States Supreme Court in 1994, Stephen Breyer appeared to be second-best again. The First Circuit judge from Boston had lost out earlier to Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and now he appeared to be the second choice of President Clinton, who had mentioned that he wanted someone with real-world experience or a compelling life story. Bruce Babbitt, the Secretary of the Interior, Judge Richard Arnold of Arkansas (and a Clinton law professor at Yale), and former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell were all rumored to be in line for Harry Blackmun's spot.

Mitchell apparently didn't want the job. Arnold was receiving treatment for lymphatic cancer, not to mention the negative press Clinton would face by placing a fellow Arkansan on the Supreme Court. And Babbitt, it was thought, would face a difficult confirmation battle because of his controversial stands on environmental issues. By default, Breyer became the safe choice, particularly because of his background as chief counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee.

A renaissance man, Breyer may not have the experiences that Clinton may have desired to add a fresh perspective to the country's highest bench, but he appears to be, at the very least, the ideal Trivial Pursuit player. Eagle Scout, trilingual, gourmet cook, bird watcher, and wine connoisseur, Breyer's pedigree includes a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Stanford, a law degree from Harvard, and a two-year stint at Oxford in between. His three children, incidentally, have been interspersed to Harvard, Yale, and Stanford.

While Breyer must answer the door to the chambers of the Supreme Court until another justice departs the bench (Stevens is the eldest justice at 76 while Rehnquist, 73, is rumored to be retiring soon), Breyer has, among many accomplishments, previously distinguished himself as the law clerk for Justice Arthur Goldberg. He helped pen the concurrence for *Griswold v. Connecticut*, which cited the never-cited Ninth Amendment as authority for the right to privacy. The "liberty" clause in the Fourteenth Amendment would later carry the day for *Roe* and its progeny instead, but the Ninth Amendment approach stirred much commentary. Breyer himself wrote that Goldberg's *Griswold* concurrence is an excellent example of pragmatic jurisprudence, a label that many would later attach to Breyer's own work.

Rather than his expertise in constitutional law, Breyer is better known for his expertise in administrative law, economic regulation, and antitrust law, subjects he taught as a professor at Harvard. However, Breyer received mixed reviews for his work on the U.S. Sentencing Commission. The commission, consisting of seven criminologists and judges, debated how to codify the punishments that would be handed down to convicts rather than rely on the discretion of the trial judge. The debate boiled down to those panelists who wanted to emphasize deterrence versus those who wanted to emphasize punishment. As the policy debates of the panel became increasingly embittered, Breyer successfully argued that the panel merely codify the calculated averages that the judges in the past had already been using. While some praise his ingenuity in finding a solution to an impossible problem, others remark that he came up with a solution that no one, particularly judges, likes.

His pragmatism and penchant for compromise have some Supreme Court watchers concerned that in an effort to find a consensus, Breyer's principles may fall to the wayside. While many may disagree with the strict formalism of a someone such as Justice Scalia, at least the results of a Scalia opinion are predictable. Critics charge that Breyer's opinions as an appellate court place him, at various times, on both sides of all major issues. Others feel that Breyer's consensus-building skills will give him the opportunity to lead the court's powerful pack of moderates (O'Connor, Kennedy, and Souter) during his tenure although it is not clear where.

History, however, has taught us that the past performance of a justice is not always a reliable indicator of how a justice will adjudicate once he or she becomes a Supreme Court justice. Reflecting on Chief Justice Earl Warren's liberal record on the Supreme Court, President Eisenhower, in retrospect, called the Warren nomination "the biggest damn fool mistake I've ever made."

It is too early to say how history or Bill Clinton will rate his second-best choice, Stephen Breyer, as a Supreme Court justice.

Student Trial Lawyers Association

The competition season for the Student Trial Lawyers Association got underway this past year with excellent results. The National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Competition was held in San Antonio Texas on November 10-12. The competition was held concurrently with the NACDL conference. The team consisted of Brad Reed (3L), Vincent Davis (3L), Trey Reese (3L) and Cynthia Jones (3L). The team placed 6th out of 14 teams attending the competition. Cynthia Jones received the Best Advocate Award for the first round, receiving the highest score of any competitor in round one. Trey Reese described the round as "brilliant," and Cynthia Jones as "mesmerizing to see in action." The highlight for the team was beating archrival Stetson, behind stunning performances by Brad Reed and Vince Davis. Team member Cynthia Jones remarked, "I guess we proved that in Texas, Stetson is only a hat."

The team had good, honest coaching, with coach Randy Rich leading the way. When asked what separated Georgia State from the rest of the competitors, Randy said "we have real lawyers on our team, not just law students pretending to be lawyers." Professors Podgor and Sobelson helped the team with their litigation insights and experience. Rich, Sobelson, and Podgor went to San Antonio with the team and were extremely supportive during the competition.

Since the competition was held at the same time as the NACDL conference, the team was able to mingle with top criminal defense attorneys from all over the country. All the team members agreed that interacting with the attorneys and being judged by them in the rounds was a unique opportunity, and one that they took advantage of. When asked to sum up the experience, Trey Reese remarked, "This litigation experience was extraordinary. The things I learned, through practice, coaching, and critique, will aid me throughout my legal career."

The Southeastern Regional Team also had a successful competition, missing advancing to the national finals by only one point. The team won over all other Atlanta Area Law School Teams. The competition, held in Atlanta, featured teams from around the southeast, including Emory and Mercer. The teams were made up of both 2L's and 3L's. The attorneys were: Linda Day (3L), Lee Little (3L), Paul Qualey (3L), Joseph Citron (3L), Ansley McIntire (3L), Judy Lam (2L), Gregg Willis (2L), and Stephanie Williams (2L). Witnesses included Jeff Petry (2L), George Waters (2L), Charles Parker (2L), and Roger "The English Patient" Futerman (2L).



We're Back!

The Docket staff is, as they say, "back in the saddle . . . again." We're happy to bring you this short, and late January edition. To those of you who have never seen *The Docket* before, let's just say that we're the semi-regular newspaper put out by the Student Bar Association at Georgia State.

In these pages, you will find everything from wedding announcements (Congratulations, Sylvia) to interviews with the Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court. Anything and everything is welcome for submission, and you may do so by placing a hard copy along with a 3.5" disk in Mail Box 577. And remember, Polaroid's are NEVER a good first choice (the quality is very poor). Also, graphs should not be used (they don't translate well into my Mac) and all names should be SPELLED properly. We can't look up each and every name mentioned in an article.

The Docket will be published about four times this semester. The next issue will be out sometime at the end of the month (submission deadline is February 22), and the following two will be published in late March and April, respectively. We encourage any students who would like to join the editorial board to make your intentions known to either Joe Farrell (Box 149) or Joe Wyant (Box 577). Be prepared to spend AT LEAST 1 hour per month (it's not a real time hog).

Also, we are looking for a few key students to take over the helm of *The Docket*. Neither one of the editors will be able to continue on past this semester, and this is the only way we can really keep in touch as students. Let us know if you're interested, and keep in mind that being a *Docket* editor is a really good way to impress women/men (your choice).

The views and claims expressed in *The Docket* are those of the author/advertiser and are not necessarily those of *The Docket*, its staff, the College of Law, or Georgia State University.



BULLETIN BOARD

Career Services Office Happenings & Programs:

New Spring Office Hours:

MTWTh 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

F 8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

(January 25, February 22, March 15, April 19)

Governor's Internship Program:

Summer Jobs for 1Ls and 2Ls

Applications due: noon, Tuesday, January 28

Screening Interviews @ GSU: Friday, January 31

Coastal Legal Recruiting Conference:

Annual job fair sponsored by Georgia State, Emory,

Univ. of Georgia and Mercer in Savannah, GA.

Dates to remember:

*January 24 Registration materials available in CSO

*February 3 Student Registration Deadline

*March 7 CLRC in Savannah, GA

Atlanta Bar Association Minority Clerkship Program:

Summer employment with firms open to 1Ls (full time) and 2Ls (part time)

*Brochure in mailboxes January 22

*Applications accepted January 23 - February 3

Interviews will occur in two parts. Screening interview

@ GSU week of Feb. 10; final interview February 27

(time and location TBA).

RESUME WORKSHOP:

Friday, January 24 noon @ 5 p.m. in room 144.

Targeted audience: 1Ls, but 2Ls who have not

attended a resume workshop are strongly

encouraged to attend.

Mock Interviews February 6 & 7:

Opportunity for 1Ls to sharpen interview skills.

Interviews will be conducted by graduates in CSO.

Sign ups will begin on January 31. More details

forthcoming. Watch for notices on bulletin boards.

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

APPLICATION PACKETS** should be ready to

mail on February 1. Professors Platt, Emanuel,

Radford and Wermiel will gladly answer questions

you may have. Stop by CSO to obtain the Judicial

Clerkship Guide, if you have not already done so.

Delta Theta Phi Named Outstanding Fraternity

by Pam Britt

The Delta Theta Phi International Headquarters named the Luther Alverson Senate of Georgia State University as Outstanding Fraternity last week. Remarkable in itself, this announcement is more noteworthy considering that the fraternity was the smallest of three at GSU just two years ago. Delta Theta Phi, now the largest legal fraternity at GSU, and Phi Delta Phi are now the only remaining fraternities since Phi Alpha Delta deactivated due to lack of membership last year.

In November, Delta Theta Phi welcomed 18 new members: David Kerven, Warren Halvorson, Meri Christensen, Ronald Cundy, Richard Ryczek, Meg Alley, Cynthia Lynn, James Freaney, John Stevens, Melinda Lehrer, Mark Reardon, Barry Hardy, Lawrence Thrower, Thomas Maloof, Bill Porter, Richard Shafritz, Susan Brown, and Lance Lorusso. Melissa Newton also transferred to the GSU Delta Theta Phi chapter. The new initiates were treated to a Mexican dinner after the November initiation. A second initiation ceremony will be held this spring for those who missed the Fall initiation and for those who have joined since then.

Besides the initiation, highlights from the fall included a coffee/donut social in the lobby, a T-shirt/sweatshirt sale, a program on legal exam taking featuring Charles Whitebread, a program on future interests, and a general Q&A session with outlining and study aids featured. Members also enjoyed a Halloween costume party and a holiday

dinner. Upcoming this spring will be a program on litigation tips, a guest speaker, elections for 1997, and an end-of-the year party.

Congratulations to Delts James Freaney and Bonnie Derrer (both 3Ls) who were engaged over Christmas. Also, congratulations to DTP members Lawrence Thrower, Beverly Snell, Lance Lorusso, and Peter Zeliff for making Moot Court. Great job Delts!

If you missed turning in your membership applications last fall, you may still join DTP. Pick up an application on the second floor fraternity office bulletin board and turn it in to the DTP Dean, Pam Britt, Box 83. Membership is open year round.

Officers and new initiates pose in November.



Front row (left to right): Cynthia Lynn, David Kerven, Dinh Nguyen. Back row: Brad Strawn (Master of the Ritual), Pam Britt (Dean), Warren Halvorson, Ana Kennedy (Program Chair), Ron Cundy, Richard Ryczek, Joe Farrell (Vice-Dean), and Richard Shafritz.

Third year student Sylvia Zamboki is engaged! She will marry Balint Gaspar on September 6, 1997 in Winston Salem, North Carolina, her hometown. The groom recently moved to the United States from Budapest, Hungary.



"Lanier," from page 1

He drove me over to UNC --I had only heard of it, never had been there-- and by noon he had gotten me admitted to the University; awarded a full tuition and books kind of scholarship; and had taken me to dinner (the noon meal, you know, the one before supper) with the Dean of the UNC Medical School, a certain Dr. Ike Taylor who, as I later learned, was the father of James --Sweet Baby James-- Taylor. Closest I ever got to glitter Rock and Roll. Dick Borden has been doing that kind of thing for me all of my life. He is a "Friend," both theologically and in point of fact.

JF: Any other Real-World experience other than your time with the Gambrell firm?

ERL: You mean work other than legal academics?

JF: Yes.

ERL: Sure. I enlisted in the Marine Reserves in 1963 and was commissioned in 1965; I'm now a full bull colonel waiting for transfer to the Fleet Reserve sometime around 2004. My active duty time with the Marines was spent in Rhode Island as a student at the Navy Justice School (I liked it); in Greece, Spain and Portugal with NATO assignments (I liked it a lot); and in the Republic of Viet Nam as a rifle platoon commander cum fledgling Judge Advocate.

JF: Like it?

ERL: Did I like Viet Nam? Listen, I have this bridge I want to sell you. . . I was on leave of absence from the Gambrell office during the Viet Nam period, but I came back and stayed there until 1973. At that point, I left (I like to think of it as "seceded") with another young Turk from that office and we set up a corporate and litigation boutique up in Buckhead. I had started teaching as a part-time instructor at the B School here at GSU in 1971 and in '77 I came down full-time. Been here ever since.

JF: You've been at GSU since before the Law School was opened?

ERL: Yep. I'm older than most dirt. I began working for the law school in November of 1981, the year before our first entering class came through the doors. In those days, it was Dean Ben Johnson, Mary Roberts --the first assistant to the Dean-- and me. I was the admissions committee; Ben was everything else; and Mary did it all. They were great times.

JF: Let's see: that's Ben Johnson, Smythe Gambrell, and Dick Borden. Any other heroes in your life?

ERL: Many. I have heroes for all seasons. I don't think it was serendipity that Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on the day after the birthday of General Lee and on the day before that of General Jackson: I revere all three, recognizing as well that each was human and, hence, flawed. There never was a judge in Georgia the likes of Logan Bleckley, and I will sit even now and read his opinions just for the fun of it. I still mourn the loss of Charlie Weltner: he made me proud of the South at a time when it was hard to be proud of the South. The circumstances of his departure from the Congress in what, 1966?, may be more important than anything he actually did there; his all too brief tenure as Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court will not go down as one of the most significant in Georgia history, but how many people in modern times have been so loved as Charlie Weltner? And with full justification, I would add. He was a great, great man. And I miss him. A lot.

JF: What's in store in the future for the College of Law?

ERL: Well, the College has been my life for the past fifteen years or so, and I lived in the hope of its establishment for years before it was a reality, so I am hardly an unbiased source for a prediction as to its future, but I see great things for this institution if we will just stick to some of the basics that made us what we are today. We have an earned reputation as a law school where teaching comes first, and I hope we never do anything to displace the classroom --and our focus on students-- as our first priority. But we also have to adapt when conditions in our environment change: greater emphasis on skills training is in the cards; underscoring the international and comparative elements in the law school curriculum is a simple recognition that the world is shrinking and the practice is going --has gone, really--global. . .

JF: Hence your involvement with the Linz foreign study program?

ERL: Hence my involvement in the Linz foreign study program. And while the practice is going global, paradoxically, the need for appreciation of immediate, or local, components of the practice are more paramount than ever. "The Georgia rule, and therefore the better rule . . ." as I always say. This is, I think, one aspect of the skills evolution. And what a starting lineup we have here at Georgia State -- Paul Milich in evidence, Mary Radford in probate, Doug Yarn in arbitration and ADR, Pat Morgan's work with the Corporate Code revision committee, Roy Sobelson in professionalism, Lynn Hogue and his new book on Georgia conflicts of law; Anne Emanuel is very prominent in Atlanta Bar Association affairs, may even wind up as president: these people are known to the bench and bar from Hiwassee to St. Mary's. Really. I am delighted to pull an oar on this boat.

Moot Court Wins Inaugural Scott "Barney" Shaw Bowling Tournament

Tens were on hand to witness the defeat of the Law Review Bowling team as they were crushed by the Moot Court Bowling team on January 19 in Marietta. The stakes were high: three 2L's and three 3L's from the losing team are picked by the winning team to be slaves for a day to be auctioned off at the PILA Banquet. The losers must wear bathrobes to the event. Law Review's disappointing average of 96 was not enough to even come close to the stellar Moot Court performance. Moot Court was led by former PBA Champions Jamie Kreyenbuhl and Trey Reese, who each turned in scores of over 170.

Law Review attempted to overwhelm Moot Court with sheer numbers. Their plan backfired when it became painfully obvious that numbers would be ineffective against sheer skill and determination. To add insult to injury, Law Review members Victoria Davis and John Howe attempted to distract Moot Court by performing the horizontal Macarena in the middle of the bowling lane. But nothing could deter Moot Court from sure victory. At the end, it was Moot Court who triumphed and sang the victory song, "Eye of the Tiger." As the champions left the building, holding the bowling pin trophy high above their heads, MVP Jamie Kreyenbuhl was heard to say, "Hey, what do you expect? they're a bunch of geeks!"

One Fierce Pancake Needs Syrup

The first step toward the intramural trophy has been taken by the law school's only good basketball team, One Fierce Pancake. The team, comprised of wily 3L veterans, blew out their first opponents on January 12. The opposing team was no match for One Fierce Pancake's quick first step and rebounding ability. One opposing team member was heard to exclaim, "Hey, who are these guys?" Scott Williamson, the captain of One Fierce Pancake, replied "We're your worst nightmare!" And indeed, at the end of the game, bloodied and bruised, the opposing team (who shall remain nameless at their request) limped off the court with a dazed look, not believing what they had seen that day.

Leading scorer Scott "2 Footer" Shaw remarked, "If we play like this every Sunday, everybody's in for quite a treat." Brian "Tex" McEvoy led the team in missed shots, but still managed to garner the respect of the officials, who were amazed by his athletic prowess. Brad "Rainmaker" Strawn said "when Trey "You Can't Guard Me!" Reese made that heads up play in the second half, I knew we couldn't be stopped." Alli Richardson, one of the many spectators, remarked "Gee, those guys sure can hoop it up!"

Come see One Fierce Pancake in action Sundays in January and February at the GSU Sports Arena. It's a game you won't soon forget!

Well, isn't that just special. A bunch of guys running around a basketball court under the delusion that they're a breakfast food. I'm glad that "Tex" and "Two Footer" enjoy themselves out on the courts, because the Resjudilatas are going to force you to invoke the 30-point mercy rule. Pass the Aunt Jemima, boys. . .

JF: Any hobbies?

ERL: "Hobby" carries a negative connotation for me, like, "Do you do things you aren't serious about?" I side with Tina Turner in Proud Mary: "I never do things nice and easy. I always do things nice and rough." But I know what you mean. I am an amateur historian, I guess, and if you combine that with a tinge of rabid Georgia nationalism and Southern patriotism, it leads to some interesting things. I love Mother Georgia and everything about her, her people, her places, the pathos and drama of our history. I spend a fair amount of time in archives and libraries across the State, especially here in Atlanta and in Savannah, time poking around in cemeteries, forts, battlefields, old churches, court house records. I hope to do a lot more in Georgia legal history in the coming years. And languages are fun for me.

JF: Have you taught abroad?

A. For a year in Germany in the late 1970s; a semester in Paris at the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce in 1983; Westminster College at Oxford that same year; and an on-going relation with the University of Linz in Austria since I spent a full year there in 1992. I hope to spend some time in Croatia at the University of Zagreb in the next four or five years.

JF: Any advice for graduating seniors about to go into the practice?

ERL: Pass the bar exam first! Actually, it's hard to offer any help that will fit everyone: everyone is different; everyone is unique; everyone has different needs, and everyone is starting from different chocks. One common denominator, though, is the dignity and worth of a client, whatever your field of practice. People will come to you, quite literally with hat in hand, and entrust you with their lives, their property and their sacred honor --to borrow a phrase. Respect their faith in you. Honor it. Pay them back in like coin. The practice is a marvelous human adventure, and I envy --and truly empathize with-- those who are about to begin it.

JF: Thanks.

ERL: Welcome. Any time.